

Dr. Marta Pérez, Vice Chair

SUBJECT: AMEND SCHOOL BOARD RULE - HOMEWORK

COMMITTEE: INSTRUCTIONAL EXCELLENCE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: IMPROVE STAKEHOLDER SATISFACTION

The School Board of Miami-Dade County recognizes the importance of assigning meaningful and quality homework to students. Homework fosters academic achievement, reinforces classroom instruction, and develops independent study.

The present economic situation has forced many parents and teachers to seek additional employment or work extended hours in order to meet financial obligations. Additionally, many students supervise younger siblings or work after-school in order to assist their families. Parents often encounter the need to purchase costly and difficult to find items required of their children to complete homework assignments. Furthermore, my office has received numerous calls from parents expressing objection to the amount of projects being assigned during Spring and Winter breaks when families wish to share time together or participate in religious activities.

Although the existing Board rule on homework provides guidelines on the frequency and quantity of homework per grade level, it does not address the cost of materials nor is it sensitive to working parents. All students should be able to complete homework assignments that require materials which are readily available and do not create a financial burden on parents. Additionally, teachers should be encouraged to evaluate group projects based on individual student participation, as well as provide ample time in class for group project completion. Therefore, the Board should consider amending School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.23 to address these concerns.

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**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. MARTA PÉREZ:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida amend School Board Rule 6Gx13- 6A-1.23 to recommend that teachers consider:

1. Requiring materials for homework assignments and projects which are readily available to students and do not create a financial burden to parents;
2. Being considerate when requiring assignments due the day after a religious holiday and avoid assigning projects during Spring and Winter breaks; and
3. Evaluating group projects based on individual student participation, as well as providing ample time in class for group project completion.

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